Docket No. 27949A International Application No. PCT/IB2004/002078

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TO THE UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE (US/RO)

Applicant(s) : Michael. J. White, Doris M. Beck, Ivan G. Gilbert

International Application No. : PCT/IB2004/002078

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For : MICROBIAL METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF 7-

KETODEHYDROEPIANDROSTERONE AND RELATED

ANALOGS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above referenced application prior to consideration of the application on its merits, consistent with the instruction as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.